The purpose of this study is to get a deeper understanding of what confirmation is and what confirmation implies for nursing students and of the appearance of confirmation in different pedagogical learning methods. In order for the purpose of the study to be fulfilled, the following issues are brought to the fore: What is confirmation? What does confirmation imply for nursing students? How does confirmation appear in pedagogical learning methods?

This thesis emanates from the perspective of caring science as well as from the didactic perspective of caring science according to the scientific tradition that has been developed at the department of caring science at Åbo Akademi University. The overall methodology of this study is hermeneutics. The methodological approaches in the study are inductive, deductive and abductive. In order to get answers to what confirmation is and what confirmation implies for nursing students doctor’s dissertations, science articles and topical literature were read, analyzed and summarized. In order the get an answer to how confirmation appears in pedagogical learning methods content analyses were made of selected articles and literature on pedagogical learning methods.

The result of the study shows that all learning methods contain some variation of confirmation in the method itself but the importance of confirmation varied. If the importance of confirmation in a specific pedagogical learning method is less central, there is a demand for confirmation of a more central character of the nursing teacher. It is the responsibility of the teacher to, in a caritative manner, see to that all nursing student really are embraced by confirmation in their studies, irrespective of the more or less central character of confirmation the learning method itself contains. Confirmation is a permanent action in pedagogical learning methods.

During the study a new understanding has taken place. Nursing students, the pedagogical love and the pedagogical learning method meet in the realms of confirmation. In the realms of confirmation, where they are linked to each other which forms am interlaced whole. In order for this interlaced whole to be optimal, nursing students, pedagogical love and the pedagogical learning methods need to become and remain a unity.